

CLAIMS

1. In a swimming pool cleaning device having a flexible hose supported by a plurality of floats secured therealong, an apparatus for driving the hose into
5 the pool from a storage area, including:

a first tube open at both ends and having one of said ends disposed in communication with the pool, said hose extending through said first tube;

a plurality of water jets in said first tube, said jets being angled obliquely toward said one end to emit water streams toward said one end;

10 said water streams impinging on said floats to push said floats and said hose toward said one end of said first tube, whereby said hose is driven into the pool.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said first tube has an inside diameter
15 sufficient to pass said floats in freely translating fashion.

3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said first tube has an inside diameter slightly larger than the outside diameter of said floats, whereby said water streams create a piston effect in conjunction with said floats to drive said floats toward
20 said one end of said first tube.

4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said first tube is sufficiently long to entrain at least two of said floats therewithin at any one time.

5. The apparatus of claim 1, further including an outer tube extending concentrically about said first tube, said outer tube connected between said pool and said storage area and disposed to replenish water displaced into said pool by said water streams of said jets.

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6. The apparatus of claim 1, further including a second tube extending concentrically about said first tube and spaced apart therefrom, and end seals joined to like ends of the first and second tubes to define a pressure chamber therebetween.

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7. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein said water jets extend from said pressure chamber into said first tube.

8. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein said water jets are spaced circumferentially and longitudinally in said first tube.

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9. In a swimming pool cleaning device having a flexible hose supported by a plurality of floats secured therealong, a method for driving the hose into the pool from a storage area, including the steps of:

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providing a tubular passage through which said flexible hose extends;
providing a plurality of water jets in said tubular passage, said water jets being angled toward an outlet end adjacent to the pool;
said water jets impinging on said floats and driving the floats and hose into the pool.

10. The method of claim 9, further including the step of providing a pressure chamber surrounding said tubular passage, and connecting said water jets to be supplied by said pressure chamber.

5 11. The method of claim 9, wherein a flow of water from the pool replaces the water drawn from the storage area by the jets.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein said flow of water from the pool passes through a tunnel connecting said storage area and the pool.

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13. The method of claim 9, wherein the water pressure within said storage area is maintained between zero pressure and negative pressure.

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